

NEW SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF WEST AMERICAN  
COLEOPTERA

BY EDWIN C. VAN DYKE

*University of California, Berkeley, California*

## FAMILY LAMPYRIDÆ

Genus *Brachylampis* Van Dyke, new genus

Small, short and compact. Head of moderate size, concealed from above by overhanging prothorax because of flexed position, when extended fully reaching the anterior margin of prothorax; antennæ neither pectinate nor serrate but robust, somewhat compressed and almost reaching middle of elytra, the second, or second and third, segments short and transverse, less than one-half the length of the following; remaining segments almost one-half longer than broad, the proximal subtriangular, the distal with sides somewhat parallel, the eleventh or terminal elliptical, rounded at apex and without an appendix; eyes rather large, somewhat coarsely granular and well separated. Prothorax transverse, broadly rounded in front, with anterior margin narrowly reflexed; base bisinuate, with median area broadly lobed and narrowly margined, the hind angles acute, divergent and carinate, with deep foveæ within. Beneath: middle coxæ contiguous; epipleura distinct and broad at base; legs flattened, the fourth tarsal segments bilobed, short, concealing only the base of last segment; last three abdominal segments testaceous, the last ventral rounded at apex.

Genotype: *Brachylampis sanguinicollis*, new species.

This peculiar genus apparently belongs in the tribe Lucidotini but it is anomalous, looking like none of the other genera in North America. Its peculiar features are its small size and compact body, the prothorax strongly bifoveate at base, with bisinuate posterior margin and well defined, divergent hind angles, the head inflexed and concealed from above but well developed and reaching front margin of pronotum when extended, the antennæ short and compact, with first or first and second segments very short, the following elongate and more or less parallel sided, fourth tarsal segments short, covering only the base of the last, and the last three ventral segments testaceous, the last rounded at apex. As far as I know, it does not emit light. In size and shape it somewhat resembles *Brachypsectra* or *Omethes*, being generally broader and more robust than the latter but of the same length.

*Brachylampis sanguinicollis* Van Dyke, new species

## Figure 1.

Small, compact, subparallel, black except prothorax which is rufous and the three terminal ventral segments which are testaceous; sparsely, finely pubescent throughout. Head of moderate size, front punctured, clypeus feebly sulcate; antennæ robust, second segment small and transverse, about one-half length of third, the following feebly triangular and almost one-half longer than broad. Prothorax about twice as broad as long, feebly convex; sides somewhat convergent forwards from hind angles; front slightly arcuate; disk with a fine median longitudinal impression

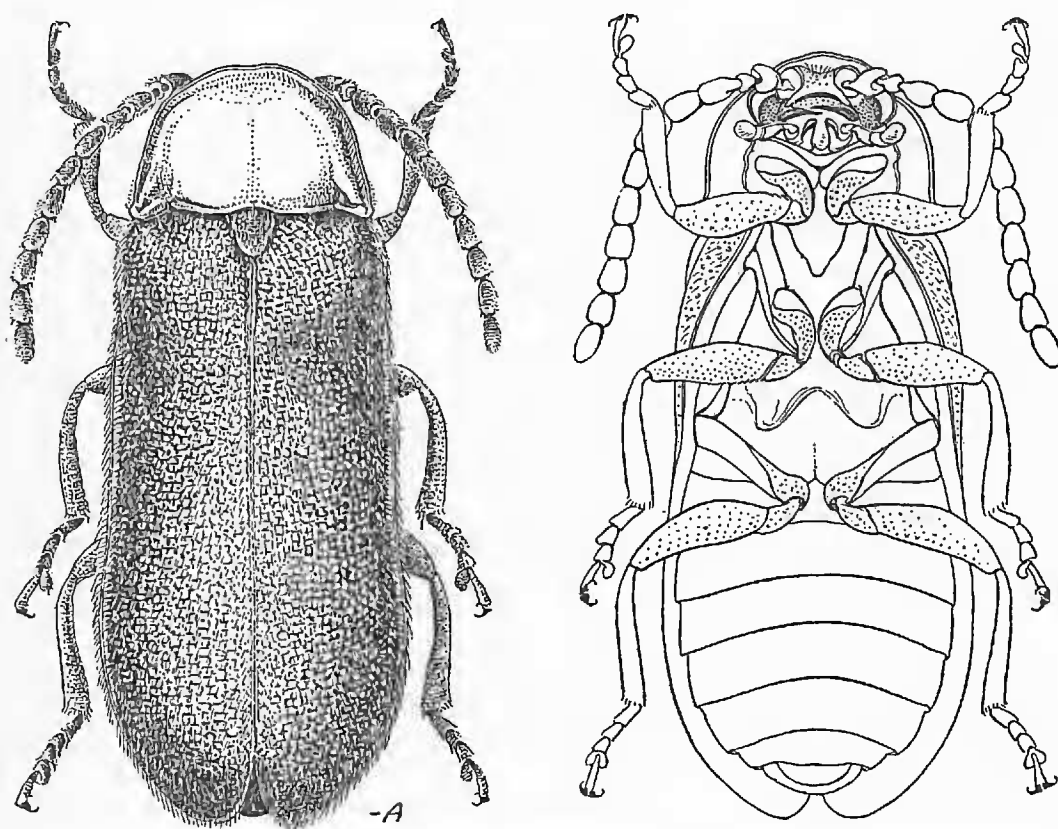


Fig. 1. *Brachylampis sanguinicollis* Van Dyke, n. sp., dorsal and ventral views. x 13.

and a small transverse ridge in front just behind the anterior reflexed margin; rather sparsely, feebly punctured; its other characters mentioned in the generic description. Scutellum well developed, rounded at apex, coarsely punctured, with short pubescence that appears slightly fulvous in strong light. Elytra twice as long as broad, subparallel and conjointly rounded at apex, the disk coarsely, irregularly punctured and rugose. Ventral surface rather finely punctured and scabrous. Length 5.25 mm., breadth 2 mm.

Holotype (No. 4766, Mus., Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and numerous designated paratypes from a series of sixty-four specimens in my own collection in the California Academy of Sci-

ences, and forty-six specimens loaned me for study by Mr. Arthur T. McClay. All were collected at various times during June, 1929, from amongst the drift debris collected in a reservoir near Potwisha, Sequoia National Park, California. The color of the prothorax fades somewhat after death.

*Brachylampis blaisdelli* Van Dyke, new species

This species is very similar superficially to the preceding but differs by being in general slightly larger, proportionally broader, the prothorax in particular; by having the anterior prothoracic margin almost a complete semicircle as seen from behind, and the disk with a black spot extending from the apex to the middle of the base, the punctuation also considerably coarser; antennæ with segments II and III both small and transverse, II the larger; each about a third the length of IV which is triangular, twice as long as broad and somewhat broader than III or IV in *sanguinicornis*, the following segments gradually narrower toward the apex; scutellum subacute at apex, with a median longitudinal carina in front; and the elytra more coarsely and deeply sculptured.

Holotype (No. 4767, Mus., Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) from San Diego, California, and paratype from Poway, San Diego County, California, both collected by Dr. F. E. Blaisdell and now in his collection in the California Academy of Sciences. A third specimen from Mt. Wilson, Los Angeles County, California, collected in July, is in the Fenyès collection, also in the California Academy of Sciences. It is in agreement with the preceding in all regards except as to the color of the pronotum, this being entirely orange red.

This very distinct species is readily separated from the preceding by the type of antennæ and the more coarsely sculptured elytra, and in most cases by the maculate prothorax, as well as by its slightly larger size and proportionally broader antennæ.

FAMILY MYCETOPHAGIDÆ

*Mycetophagus pluriguttatus franciscanus* Van Dyke,  
new subspecies

Of the same size and form as *pluriguttatus* and sharing with it antennæ which have the three outer segments in the form of an elongated, slightly enlarged club; the prothorax broadest behind the middle, with rather evenly arcuate sides, subbasal foveæ somewhat elongate, and disk densely punctured; elytra with shal-

lowly impressed striæ that are finely, rather closely punctured on the disk but more or less obliterated at the sides and toward the apex; differing in color pattern, the entire insect being of a uniform piceous color except for the legs, which are generally rufous, the apical antennal segment, which is often testaceous, and the prothorax, which is sometimes rufopiceous or at least lighter in shade than the elytra. Length 5.5 mm., breadth 2.5 mm.

Holotype (No. 4768 Mus., Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and several designated paratypes, collected by myself in the Oakland hills, California, March 28, 1920, or on other dates. This very distinct and more or less unicolorous subspecies seems to be limited to the San Francisco Bay region. In former years I used to find it quite frequently during the winter months or early spring about the fungus growths of decaying stumps in the hills back of Oakland. Our series in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences consists of over twenty-three specimens, all remarkably uniform as to size and coloration. These were collected in the following localities: Oakland hills, Berkeley, Lake Lagunitas and other places in Marin County, San Francisco and Carmel, all collected by either Dr. F. E. Blaisdell or myself.

The more typical bicolored *pluriguttatus* is generally found more inland, particularly in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Once or twice I have found the coastal subspecies with more or less well defined subapical elytral light markings but never any specimens with a color pattern approaching that of the typical form.

#### FAMILY PYTHIDÆ

##### *Cononotus bryanti* Van Dyke, new species

Very elongate, rufotestaceous, with fine, closely appressed gray pile, sufficiently dense to in great part conceal the sculpturing. Head, including the eyes, about as broad as apex of prothorax; rather finely, somewhat densely and indistinctly punctured; front longitudinally subcarinate at middle; eyes rather large yet feebly convex; antennæ about reaching base of prothorax, with all segments longer than broad, but segments IX and X very slightly so. Prothorax obconical; three-fourths as broad as long and broadest one-fourth distance from apex; apex almost twice as broad as base; sides feebly sinuate behind; disk densely and shallowly punctured. Elytra elongate elliptical, almost two and a half times as long as broad, convex; punctures fine and irregularly distributed though to a great extent concealed by the pubescence. Length 3.75 mm., breadth 1 mm.

Holotype (No. 4769, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) collected in the Tuscon Mountains, Arizona, March 15, 1936, by Owen Byrant and kindly presented by him. Five paratypes, also from the same locality, collected February 21, 1937, by Mr. Bryant, four of which will be returned to the collector.

Of the three species with elytral punctures irregularly distributed, this species may be distinguished by being much the narrowest as well as by being somewhat coarsely pubescent.

### *Cononotus lanchesteri* Van Dyke, new species

Elongate, somewhat flattened, rufotestaceous, and sparsely clothed with short, fine, closely appressed pile. Head, including eyes, as broad as apex of prothorax; rather coarsely, closely and somewhat cribrately punctured; eyes prominent; antennæ reaching base of prothorax, segments IX and X about as broad as long. Prothorax obconical; almost as broad as long, broadest close to apex; apex twice as broad as base; sides feebly sinuate behind; disk densely punctured. Elytra elongate elliptical, over twice as long as broad; feebly convex above, with sides subcarinate; punctures on disk distinct though fine and irregularly distributed in front and very minute, almost imperceptible behind, the general surface feebly shining. Length 4.25 mm., breadth 1.30 mm.

Holotype (No. 4770, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.), and three paratypes, collected at Parma, Idaho, March 24, 1930, by H. P. Lanchester, and by him very kindly presented to me. A single specimen in the Fenyés Collection, from "Leeds Ut., Aug. 4-7, Wickham," belongs with the above.

This species is the longest in the genus and may be separated from the preceding, which is also very elongate, by being slightly broader and flatter, more finely, sparsely punctured and by having the head more coarsely punctured, the outer segments of the antennæ also a bit more transverse.

### SYNOPTIC KEY TO CONONOTUS<sup>1</sup>

1. Elytra with punctures fine but numerous and irregularly dispersed; length 2.75-4.25 mm..... 2
- . Elytra with punctures more or less regularly arranged in rows and generally coarser..... 4
2. Pubescence fine and sparse, not perceptibly concealing sculpturing; prothorax almost as broad in front as long..... 3
- . Pubescence quite evident, concealing sculpturing to quite a degree; prothorax narrower in front than long; elytra elongate

<sup>1</sup> An elaboration of the key published by me in Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., XXIII, pp. 258-259, 1928.

- elliptical, almost two and one-half times as long as broad; length 4 mm., S. Arizona.....*bryanti*
3. Head finely and discretely punctured; antennæ with segments VII to X distinctly transverse; prothorax broadest one-fourth distance from apex; elytra elliptical, twice as long as broad, somewhat dull and with punctures moderately coarse and close in front and very fine behind; length 2.75-3.25 mm. S. California ..... *sericans*
- . Head coarsely and closely, somewhat cribrately punctured; antennæ with segments all as long as, or longer than, broad; prothorax broadest close to apex; elytra elongate elliptical, over twice as long as broad, somewhat shining and with punctures fine and sparse in front and very minute behind; length 4.25 mm. Idaho.....*lanchesteri*
4. Pubescence fine and sparse, not concealing sculpturing..... 5
- . Pubescence dense; elytra elliptical, striæ not impressed; length 3 mm. Owens Valley, California.....*macer*
5. Larger and darker species; elytral striæ evidently impressed, elytra slightly broader anteriorly; length 2.5-3 mm. Los Angeles, California .....*striatus*
- . Smaller and more testaceous colored species; elytral striæ not distinctly impressed, elytra elliptical; length 1.75-2 mm. Santa Clara and Alameda counties, California.....*punctatus*

#### FAMILY PYROCHROIDÆ

*Dendroides pacificus* Barrett (1932) = *D. marginata* Van Dyke (1928).

#### RHIPIDOTHRIPS BRUNNEUS Williams

This species was described by Mr. C. B. Williams in 1913 (Records and Descriptions of British Thysanoptera, Journal Economic Biology, Vol. VIII, No. 4, pp. 216-230) and, so far as known up to the present time, has been found only in Sussex, England.

On April 8th and 15th, 1936, Messrs. George Ferguson and B. Crowell made collections of this species on Canary grass, oats and *Osmaronia* flowers at Corvallis and Granger, Oregon (Moulton Nos. 5547 and 5548). This identification is from printed description only and not by comparison with identified material but there can be little doubt as to its proper classification. This is the first record of the finding of this species in North America.—Dudley Moulton.